

## ROGUE RIVER SALMON.

The salmon of Rogue river are still plentiful, and have a world-wide reputation for their superior quality. Rogue river is the only stream in Oregon and probably on the whole coast, that has two distinct runs of salmon. The spring run begins about the 1st of April, and ends in July. They are the fattest and most excellent salmon in the known world. They are caught in drift and set nets, and never school in sufficient numbers to justify the use of a seine in their capture. The fall run begins about the 1st of September, and continues to the 1st of November. They appear in large schools and are caught altogether with seines. As many as three thousand have often been landed at one cast of the seine.

## OREGON BEACH LANDS.

There are thousands of acres of sand-beach in Oregon, which in time can be reclaimed and made available for pasturage purposes. To do so will require money to be expended and labor to be performed. It requires seven or eight years to reclaim these lands, and that is probably the reason that no one has undertaken it. The system of reclamation is to sow yellow lupine, which in a few years produces a fair and durable soil. In the meantime the shrub affords good browsing for cattle. The lupine should be sown first with barley, during the rainy season; the barley comes up first, and checks the drift of the sand by its rank and heavy stalks. Lupine grows slowly at first, taking very deep root; the second year after it is sown it is hardy enough to take care of itself, and begins to spread rapidly, and soon weaves an almost impenetrable network over the sands, and creates a rich mould by the decay of its leaves. On the coasts of France miles upon miles of land so reclaimed are now bearing crops of vegetables and cereals. This system has become very popular on the sand hills about the harbor of San Francisco, and many beautiful gardens have there taken the place of barren dunes. Take this coast and institute a similar procedure, and a few years to come would find good farms along the now desolate beach.

Three hundred industrious girls can find employment as house servants in the city of Portland at wages ranging from \$15 to \$30 per month.

## WILD FOWLS OF COOS BAY.

There is perhaps no portion of Oregon that affords greater inducements to the lover of wild-fowl shooting than Coos bay and its tributaries, and it is a lucrative employment to those who follow it for profit. The long bay is fed by Coos river and a dozen large and small sloughs, all of which abound with birds and fish. Isthmus slough has been the best of all these resorts in past years, but the march of improvement is encroaching upon the hunter's privileges; yet, the extensive mud flats about the mouth of Coos river and many other places afford much amusement for the sportsman. It is remarkable that the great variety of wild fowl, embodying almost all the various species found on the entire Atlantic coast, is compressed in the compass of Coos bay. Here, first is found the trumpeter swan—the *cygnus buccinator* of Audubon. These great birds are not so plenty here as on the Columbia river. They are a magnificent bird, of snowy plumage though their flesh is coarse, and often of a fishy flavor. Next to the swan in size, but far more abundant, comes the Canada goose, commonly known in this vicinity as the "honker;" this species of goose is by far more plenty here than the black-breasted grey goose, so common in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys, California, and the Willamette and Umpqua valleys, Oregon. The honker comes in here from its summer pastures in Alaska, to find a genial clime in the long protracted winter months. The canvas-back duck, set down by Wilson as *anas valisnera*, is the choicest of the duck family, and is often seen on this bay. Its favorite food is wild celery, which it procures by diving, and wherever this grows on the bottom it quickly finds it. This duck is of fine flavor, hence it is that this bird is much more palatable on this bay, the Columbia river and Puget sound, than on the bay of San Francisco. About Olympia, on Puget sound, it is very destructive to young oysters, from which it acquires a splendid flavor. The mallard is a common visitor to these waters—in fact this duck is a genuine "web-foot"—hatching and rearing its young in Oregon. Its tender flesh and rich flavor render it a good roasting bird, while the gorgeous green and dun plumage of the drake makes it a favorite of the natur-

alist; it is an arrant glutton—feeding on snails, frogs, and everything else eatable that falls in its way. In the Willamette valley it is quite destructive to late wheat fields. The widgeon is a prettily-mottled gray duck, with a bald pate and gray spots on the back of its head. It flies in large flocks, and falls an easy prey to the gunner, as it is not rapid on the wing. Like the Canada goose, it is graminivorous in its food, and its flesh always affords good eating. The green-winged teal is to be found in all parts of Oregon; it takes more to the fresh-water lakes, but is frequently found on the salt marshes; it is rapid in flight, has a beautiful plumage, and its flesh ranks next to the English snipe. Broiled for breakfast, with a slice of toast, it is delicious.

## THE FRUIT CROP.

Fruit growers say that prospects for a very large fruit crop in Jackson county are most promising. At this date, last year, many almonds and peaches were in bloom and, consequently, were badly damaged by frost while, at present, buds are only beginning to swell and bloom will be so late that the crop will hardly be caught by frosts. A very large number of trees and vines have already been set out this spring and fruit-raising seems to have a new start. In a few years this industry and wine-making, so long neglected, will be one of the most important in Jackson County.

## KLUCKITAT LANDS.

The land lying in Klickitat county west of Wallula, which for so long a period has been considered worthless except as a cattle range, is now described as being the very best yielding of wheat land, and there is consequently quite a rush to that locality. From a party who is familiar with it, we learn that most of the claims located, are embraced in a small territory commencing about four miles from Wallula, running back some ten or eleven miles, and distant from Umatilla landing ten miles, and from the nearest point on the Yakima river about eight miles. The soil is heavier than that lying between this place and Dry creek, and is covered with the finer growth of bunch grass, with occasional wild pea vines and small sage brush. The country is generally level, the few ravines running across it being approached by gentle slopes, rendering farming easy and practicable, while many of them afford water in a distance of three or four feet. Parties who have been back further from the river than the land described report that there is a large body of land in that region that is tillable, and that the soil is heavier, with surface water in greater abundance.